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MPS Ref. No.: IBMK10117

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of locating network addresses according to geographic information, comprising:

receiving a query for a network address associated with a geographic region, wherein the query contains geographic location information indicating a current position of a requesting device, wherein the network address being requested is a publicly accessible website address belonging to a third-party place of business and at which hypertext content accessible via the hypertext transfer protocol is located, the content being related to the place of business;

parsing the query; and

locating, in a network address locator data structure, geographic region information defining the geographic region and satisfying the query according to the geographic location information and wherein the network address locator data structure further includes the website address in association with the geographic region information; and

returning at least the website address associated with the geographic region, wherein the returned website address is in a form allowing a user of the requesting device to access a website at the website address via a web browser.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein locating comprises spatially matching the geographic region information to geographic location information.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein spatially matching comprises determining that at least one point defined by the geographic location information is contained within the geographic region.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network address locator data structure is a searchable index compiled by at least one spider.

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5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein locating comprises accessing user-defined region information containing at least one region defined by the user issuing the query.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network address locator data structure comprises a plurality of network address entries and associated geographic region entries.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the geographic location information comprises global positioning system (GPS) coordinates.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the GPS coordinates comprise a longitudinal coordinate, a latitudinal coordinate and an altitudinal coordinate.
9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the GPS coordinates comprise at least three points.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the query contains search information indicating to a search tool a geographic region search mode.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the query contains search information indicating to a search tool a geographic location search mode and wherein locating the geographic region comprises accessing a geographic region entry of the network address locator data structure.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein searching for the network addresses comprises processing metatag information retrieved from geographic location metatags contained in Web pages, wherein the geographic location metatags comprise a geographic location name attribute and an associated content attribute containing the geographic region information.

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13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the geographic location metatags contain geographic region information for a plurality of regions.

14. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium containing a program which, when executed, performs a method of locating network addresses according to geographic information, the method comprising:

receiving a query for a network address associated with a geographic region, wherein the query contains geographic location information indicating a current position of requesting device, wherein the network address being requested is a publicly accessible website address belonging to a third-party place of business and at which hypertext content accessible via the hypertext transfer protocol is located, the content being related to the place of business;

parsing the query; and

locating, in a network address locator data structure, geographic region information defining the geographic region and satisfying the query according to the geographic location information and wherein the network address locator data structure further includes the website address in association with the geographic region information; and

returning at least the website address associated with the geographic region, wherein the returned website address is in a form allowing a user of the requesting device to access a website at the website address via a web browser.

15. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein the query contains search information indicating to a search tool a geographic region search mode.

16. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein the network address locator data structure is a searchable index compiled by at least one spider.

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17. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein locating comprises accessing user-defined region information containing at least one region defined by the user issuing the query.
18. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein the network address locator data structure comprises a plurality of network address entries and associated geographic region entries.
19. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein the geographic location information comprises global positioning system (GPS) coordinates.
20. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 19, wherein the GPS coordinates comprise a longitudinal coordinate, a latitudinal coordinate and an altitudinal coordinate.
21. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 19, wherein the GPS coordinates comprise at least three points.
22. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 14, wherein locating comprises spatially matching the geographic region information to geographic location information.
23. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein spatially matching comprises determining that at least one point defined by the geographic location information is contained within the geographic region.
24. (Previously Presented) A method of locating network addresses using geographic location information specifying a current location of a requesting device, comprising:

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transmitting a query for a network address associated with a geographic region, wherein the query contains the geographic location information;
receiving a response containing at least two network addresses;
discarding at least one of the at least two network addresses;
displaying remaining network addresses of the at least two network addresses, wherein the remaining network addresses include the network address associated with a geographic region, wherein the remaining network addresses are publicly accessible website addresses belonging to third-party places of business and at which hypertext content accessible via the hypertext transfer protocol is located, the content being related to the places of business; and
receiving a request, by a web browser executing on the requesting device, to navigate to at least one of the remaining network addresses.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the query contains search information indicating to a search tool a geographic region search mode.

26. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the query is configured to instruct a search tool to access user-defined geographic region information.

27. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein discarding comprises accessing user-preference information to eliminate the at least one of the at least two network addresses.

28. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein displaying comprises displaying only the network address associated with a geographic region.

29. (Previously Presented) A server computer system, comprising:
a storage area containing a network address locator data structure comprising metatags associated with network addresses; wherein the metatags contain geographic region information defining regions; and
an application configured to:

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search the network address locator data structure for a network address associated with a region in response to receiving a query containing geographic location information indicative of a current location of a requesting device, wherein the network address being requested by the query is a publicly accessible website address belonging to a third-party place of business and at which hypertext content accessible via the hypertext transfer protocol is located, the content being related to the place of business; and
return the network address to a requesting entity from which the query was received.

30. (Original) The server computer system of claim 29, wherein the geographic region information comprises global positioning system (GPS) coordinates specifying the regions.

31. (Original) The server computer system of claim 29, wherein the network address locator data structure is a searchable index compiled by at least one spider.

32. (Original) The server computer system of claim 29, wherein the geographic location information and the geographic region information comprise global positioning system (GPS) coordinates.

33. (Original) The server computer system of claim 32, wherein the GPS coordinates comprise a longitudinal coordinate, a latitudinal coordinate and an altitudinal coordinate.

34. (Previously Presented) A data structure stored on a signal bearing medium and accessible by an application to resolve a query containing geographic information indicative of a requesting device's current position, the data structure comprising metatags associated with network addresses; wherein each metatag contains geographic region information defining at least one region associated with at least one network address, wherein the at least one network address is a publicly accessible

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website address belonging to a third-party place of business and at which hypertext content accessible via the hypertext transfer protocol is located, the content being related to the place of business.

35. (Original) The data structure of claim 34, wherein the data structure is a searchable index compiled by at least one spider.

36. (Original) The data structure of claim 34, wherein the at least one region comprises a plurality of regions.

37. (Original) The data structure of claim 34, wherein the at least one network address is a uniform resource locator.

38. (Original) The data structure of claim 34, wherein the geographic region information comprises GPS coordinates.

39. (Original) The data structure of claim 38, wherein the GPS coordinates comprise a longitudinal coordinate, a latitudinal coordinate and an altitudinal coordinate.